



THE ROTATOR

Vol. 102, No. 25, January 14, 2016

SAN DIEGO ROTARY CLUB

The Jazz Xpress

Next Meeting

January 21, 2016

*Biographer and Author
Lynne Carrier
on Leon Williams*



Andy Liska
Editor

President **Peter Duncan**, entering his third quarter, called today's meeting of the STBRCITW to order right on schedule. Peter had just returned from this year's Fish Across The Border event in Ensenada where almost 1,100 bags of food were

filled and delivered with new blankets to very appreciative locals. Kudos to Chair **Robert Fletcher** and Vice-Chair **Mike Morton, Jr.** for another successful joint venture, cross-border event with Ensenada Rotary Clubs.

After today's visitors were welcomed, today's meeting took a definite SDSU Rotaract flavor. SDSU Rotaract President Zack Albrecht gave today's very inspirational message that touched on the "service above self" as demonstrated by Rotaracts like Grace Diaz. Executive Vice President Jordan Maharaj led us in the Pledge, and then led us in a "Rotaract opening song" that was perhaps more familiar to the younger members of the audience. Well done, Zack and Jordan. Today's news was sponsored by **Ray McKewon** and the Xceptional Music Company, and was ably read by newsman **Mark Burgess**.

It is always wonderful to see a "legacy" new member, and today was no exception. New member **Camille Newbern**, sponsored, of course, by proud dad **Will Newbern**, gave us her top ten list of interesting things she bets you didn't know about her. Will followed her introduction by making her perhaps the quickest Paul Harris Fellow in club history by pinning her with a vintage Paul Harris pin that had been presented to him ten years earlier. Welcome to the club, Camille!

Cari McCormick reminded us of the annual Fireside Chat which is set for January 26 and will be held at Our Lady of Peace. Cari was followed by President Elect **John Morrell** whose firm, Higgs, Fletcher & Mack, will be hosting a multi-club/Rotaract mixer on February 3. The food theme is college-oriented; think pizza & cold ones. This

should be a great opportunity for networking and fellowship. As usual, check the club's website for more details and to sign up.

If you have never had the privilege to attend an SDSU Rotaract meeting, you got a glimpse of how they work today because the Rotaractors held a mini-meeting before our very eyes. We were treated to the news of the day, a joke of the day, and a memorable quote of the day. Your editor received a nifty new red Rotaract t-shirt and fines were levied on Rotarians for their good deeds. And last, but not least, President Peter's hair follicle-challenged noggin got a little attention.

With today's business completed, Peter introduced Chair of the Day and photographer/music man extraordinaire **Stan Lawrence**. Stan showered career emblematic gifts upon a visiting Rotarian from India and then welcomed today's program stars, the *Jazz Express*. This remarkable group was founded 16 years ago in response to the loss of musical programs in our public schools. These very talented musicians ranged in age from 13 to 28 and are all very accomplished at what they do best, which is to play amazing jazz! This group gets its songs, or "charts," from other contemporary composers, but then put their own twist on each song. We were treated to great new jazz numbers including *My Salsa Valentine*, *Beat Down Broken & No Hope Blues*, *Pearl from Earl* and the cervesa ballad *I Want To Hear Beer*.

Simply put, these kids are tremendous talents who are wonderfully inspired and led by Stan, a sax virtuoso in his own right. The audience obviously agreed and provided a rare standing ovation. And President Peter smartly improvised, changing up his usual speaker's gift from vino to Starbucks gift cards. Good decision Peter.

Leon L. Williams was a pioneering political leader who wielded influence at a critical time in San Diego's history. The first African American city councilman, and later, the first black county supervisor, Williams worked tirelessly for inclusive policies that would benefit all San Diegans. He also had a clear vision for transforming San Diego. His ideas and proposals helped rescue a dying inner city and brought a fixed-rail trolley to the San Diego State University campus.

Lynne Carrier will talk about Leon's remarkable life and his effective approach to politics.

Lynne Carrier, author of Leon's book "Together We Can Do More," is a journalist who first covered Leon in the late 1970s when she was a City Hall reporter for the San Diego Evening Tribune. Her articles also have appeared in numerous other newspapers and magazines, including Forbes and Newsweek. She wrote a history of planning, "San Diego: Looking to the Future," for the city of San Diego.



Michael Brunker
Chair of the Day

QUICK BITS

Sodexo Catering will be conducting weekly surveys on their food and service for our Thursday meetings. Please take the time to complete the short survey on your table whenever you attend a program. Your feedback is important to them, as is working with us, to keep the quality of food and service at its best.

The deadline to submit a 2016 **Camp Enterprise Legacy Nomination** for your son/daughter, grandson/granddaughter, direct relative or close family friend who is a high school junior is on January 22. [Click here](#) for the more important information and for the application. Any questions, please contact [Jean Young](#) or [Jackie Meyer](#). **Camp Enterprise is on March 17 – 19, 2016 at Camp Cedar Glen, Julian.**

BIRTHDAYS

January

Tim Caulfield	18
Alan Spector	21
Marie Huff	21
Greg Noonan	21

A Fun Committee Event

**WEDNESDAY,
FEBRUARY 3**

Join us for a multi-committee and multi-club networking event!



We invite you to join Grotarians, SDSU Rotaracts, and the “Fun” Committee, along with members of the Coronado Club and other District 5340 Rotary clubs for an early evening of fun, fellowship and networking.

The event is set to take place at the beautiful law offices of **Higgs, Fletcher & Mack from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm**. Food and beverages will be served. **Cost is \$15 for Rotarians and guests, \$7 for Rotaracts.** Last day to register is January 29.

[Click here](#) for more details and to register.

MEMBERSHIP

Please welcome our newest member to the club:



Camille Newbern “Real Estate Development - Asset Management.” Camille is an Asset Manager for The Tom Hom Group, LLC. Her responsibilities are focused on adding value to the company real estate portfolio.

She is a USC graduate and enjoys travel, art, fitness (she has taught Pilates) and blogging. Camille is also a model and actress and has appeared in numerous national commercials.

Will Newbern, Gayle Hom and Tyler Cramer were her sponsors.

Email: cnewbern@tomhomgroup.com

Business phone: 858-456-5000 ext 220

CALENDAR

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT LIBERTY STATION CONFERENCE CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

January

21 - Leon Williams, Former City Councilman and County Supervisor

28 - Gary McCord, Professional golfer, golf analyst, author

February

4 - Richard Lederer, Best-selling author

11 - Sweetheart's Program

GROTARIAN EVENTS

Attention Grotarians—this meeting is one of the requirements toward your permanent badge. Please consider attending if you have not attended one before.

WINTER FIRESIDE CHAT

Tuesday, January 26

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Location: Academy of Our Lady of Peace

This free event is open to Grotarians only (please, no guests or spouses.)

[CLICK HERE](#) for more event details and to register.

Meetings: Every Thursday at Noon, Liberty Station Conference Center, 2600 Laning Road, San Diego, 92106

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FACES ON OUR CROWD



Left: Will Newbern, new member Camille Newbern, Chair of the Day Stan Lawrence and President Peter; Right: SDSU Rotaract President Zack Albrecht presided over a Rotaract mini-meeting.



Left: President Elect John Morrell announced an event put on by the Fun Committee; Right: members of the SDSU Rotaracts.



Thank you to all the very talented young men of Jazz Xpress who entertained us and kept our toes tapping during the program.

FISH ACROSS THE BORDER COMMITTEE

2016 was a record year for Fish Across the Border! In our 23rd year, we distributed 1,070 bags of staple food items, blankets, toys and candy to families in real need in the poorest areas of Ensenada. Over 25 San Diego Rotarians and their families and members of the Sportfishing Assoc. of CA joined other Rotary Clubs from Southern California to partner with the Ensenada Centenaria Rotary Club on Friday, January 8 to first fill the 1,000+ food bags and then load them in SUVs and pickups for the distribution on Saturday, January 9.

The next morning our group first visited a halfway house for the homeless called the "Albergue de San Vicente," where we talked with the social worker in charge, delivered cases of tuna, gave her some much needed cash and had a chance to see all the facilities available to those unfortunate enough to need the assistance. We then went to the suburb of Maneadero where we visited Church grounds and handed out food bags, blankets, toys and candy to the assembled families of migrant farm workers preselected by Ensenada Rotarians. That afternoon we joined with other Rotarians to celebrate another successful year of the program at the home of Dr. Eloy Perez and his wife. A great carne asada bbq was enjoyed by all and we all returned to San Diego with satisfaction of participating in a job well done! Another excellent example of great Rotary fellowship working in service to the community!

Bob Fletcher, Chairman, Fish Across the Border

